



News From

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Biggert Praises VA Recommendation To Keep Hines VA Hospital Open

Washington, DC – U.S. Representative Judy Biggert (R-IL13) today issued the following statement regarding the recommendation contained in the Veterans' Administration's (VA) Capital Assets Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) study that the Edward J. Hines, Jr. VA Hospital located in Maywood, Illinois should remain open:

"I am pleased by the recommendation that Hines Hospital will remain open. The VA has clearly made the right choice in abandoning its previous plan to move many of the services Hines provides into the city.

Hines is the largest and most productive VA hospital in Illinois and serves all of its patients with attentive care, including the 24,217 veterans who live outside of the City of Chicago. Due to its convenient location, Hines is the only viable health care option for aged and disabled veterans living outside of the inner city of Chicago.

I am supportive of the VA's efforts to modernize and streamline its health care facility system as unneeded and underused facilities are costing the VA, and therefore taxpayers, millions of dollars each year to operate. Hines is the most flexible, convenient, and high quality VA hospital within the VISN 12 system and keeping it open fully takes into account the needs of the veterans' population in Illinois.

I urge the Veterans Administration to follow the recommendations made in the CARES study and recognize the value that Hines VA Hospital has to the veterans community in Illinois."

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